

10/587331

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of Hironobu KUSAFUKA, et al. *RECEIVED PCT/PTO 26 JUL 2006*  
Group Art Unit : (Unassigned)  
Application No. : (Natl. Phase of PCT/IB2005/000344)  
Examiner : (Unassigned)  
Filed : (Herewith)  
Docket No. : 10517/342  
For : **VOLTAGE GENERATOR DEVICE, MOTOR VEHICLE, CONTROL METHOD FOR THE VOLTAGE GENERATOR DEVICE, CONTROL METHOD FOR THE MOTOR VEHICLE, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM STORING PROGRAM FOR CAUSING COMPUTER TO EXECUTE THE CONTROL METHOD**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Bldg.  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). The paragraphs marked below are applicable. It is believed that no fees other than those indicated below are due, but authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees due, or to credit any overpayment, to deposit account 11-0600.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (d) before the mailing of a first office action after filing of a request for continued examination. No certification or fee is required.

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2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance, or any action that otherwise closes prosecution.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

c. Please debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached. 37 CFR §1.97(c)(2).

3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby request(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Please debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

4. Relevance of the non-English language reference(s) is discussed in the present specification.

5. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

6. A concise explanation of the relevance of certain non-English language reference(s) appears in the Appendix attached hereto.

7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/1587331, filed, which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination of the present application.

8. This application is one of a series of related applications, identified in the attached Appendix, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of those U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during the examination.

9. The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

10. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached thereto.

11. Copies of U.S. references are not required.

12. Other: **Statement of Relevancy**

Five of the references were cited in the International Search Report. Copies of the International Search Report, the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, a Response to the Written Opinion and the International Preliminary Report on Patentability with amended sheets are enclosed.

**JP 2002-038984:** This reference is described in the specification on page 2.

**JP A 2002-078239:** Discloses a technology that reduces the electric power consumption by entering an intermittent switching mode if low voltage occurs.

**JP A 2002-218646:** Discloses a technology that prohibits an output of an electricity generator that is greater than or equal to a predetermined value if a DC/DC converter is abnormal.

**JP A 2003-235105:** Discloses a technology that stops a DC/DC converter if a main power supply has low voltage when a system is started.

**JP-A-1-234023:** Discloses a technology that compensates for a voltage drop which occurs at the start time of an engine by using a DC/DC converter.

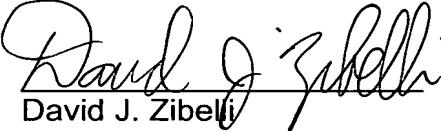
**JP-A-11-107892:** Discloses a technology that compensates for a voltage drop of a battery at the start time in an Ecorun vehicle.

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**JP-A-2001-219798:** Discloses a technology that compensates for a voltage drop which occurs at the restart time of an engine by using an auxiliary battery.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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David J. Zibelli  
(Reg. No. 36,394)

Date: 25 July 2006

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